

HILLSBOROUGH RECORDER.

Vol. I.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1820.

No. 1.

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
BY DENNIS HEARTT,
AT THREE DOLLARS A YEAR, PAYABLE
HALF YEARLY IN ADVANCE.

Those who do not give notice of their wish to have their paper discontinued at the expiration of their year, will be presumed as desiring its continuance until countermanded.

Whoever will guarantee the payment of nine papers, shall receive a tenth gratis.

Advertisements not exceeding fourteen lines will be inserted three times for one dollar, and twenty-five cents for each continuance.

Subscriptions received by the printer, and most of the post-masters in the state.

All letters upon business relative to the paper must be post-paid.

* Gentlemen of leisure, who possess a taste for literary pursuits, are invited to favour us with communications.

FOR SALE.

Two elegant Pianos Forte.

THEY are both new, and will be sold cheap for cash. A Negro Girl of an age from twelve to fifteen years, would be taken in part payment. Application must be made immediately.

Inquire of the Printer.

March 15. 61

The celebrated Horse OSTRICH,

WILL stand the ensuing season, to commence the first day of April and end the first day of August; on Monday and Tuesday of each week at James Morrow's, on Cain creek; on Wednesday in each week at James McTosh's, esq.; and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Mason Hall, all in the county of Orange; will cover mares at the reduced price of four dollars the leap, the cash to be paid at the time of service; six dollars the season, if paid at any time within the season, otherwise eight dollars will be charged for the season; and ten dollars to insure a mare with foal, which money will become due as soon as it can be ascertained the mare is with foal, or the property changed.

All possible care will be taken to prevent accidents, but the subscriber will not be liable for any that may happen.

PEDIGREE.

Ostrich, a beautiful bay, black legs, mane and tail, five feet four inches high, was thirteen years old last July, was bred by Allen Young, of the county of Mecklenburg, in the state of Virginia; was gotten by the imported stallion, Ostrich, and the celebrated mare, Daffy, and is reported

John Mason.

N. B. Gentlemen living at a distance, who think proper to send their mares to the subscriber at Mason Hall, are informed that their mares shall be well fed, and pastured gratis.

March 2, 1820. 5-3m

Mason Hall Eagle Hotel.

A. MASON,

WISHES to inform his former customers and the public generally, that he has nearly finished his house, so that he is now able to accommodate as many as may honour him with their company. His house is large, having seven comfortable rooms which have fire places in them, suitable for families, or travelling gentlemen wishing such. He has provided good beds, liquors, &c. and will keep as good a table as the neighbourhood will afford.

He is also provided with good stables, and will always keep the best provender. The situation of the place is pleasant, and very healthy. Gentlemen wishing to visit him with their families, during the summer season, can be accommodated on moderate terms.

The keeper of this establishment pledges himself to the public to do all in his power to please and give entire satisfaction. Gentlemen who call can amuse themselves in reading the newspapers in his hall-room, where he keeps files of papers from almost every part of the United States.

Mason Hall, Orange county, N. C.

Feb. 28, 1820. 4

NOTICE.

THE attention of the public is requested to the following statement. On the evening of Saturday the 19th instant, the house of the subscriber, on Swift creek, was entered during her absence, by John Bryan, and a free mulatto girl named Dicey Moore, the daughter of Lydia Moore, was forcibly taken and carried away in a chair by the said Bryan. It is believed that he has a forged bill of sale for the girl, purporting to have been executed by her mother, and it is feared that he has carried the girl to the south, with the intention of selling her. Dicey Moore has lived with the subscriber ever since she was fifteen months old, and the fact of her freedom can be proved beyond the possibility of a doubt. She is now about seventeen years old, five feet high, with a yellowish complexion, thick bushy hair, and wears rings in her ears.

Bryan is about six feet high, has blue eyes, is a little round shouldered, and has a long nose.

The editors of southern papers are requested to give the foregoing an insertion in their respective papers, as possibly it may save from a state of slavery this girl, who has an unquestionable right to her freedom.

Catharine Free.

Swift Creek, Craven County,

February 25, 1820.

JAMES ANDREWS,

TAILOR

AND LADIES' DRESS MAKER,

GRATEFUL for past favours, has the pleasure of announcing to the ladies and gentlemen of Hillsborough and its vicinity, that he has determined to offer them his professional services, and being possessed of a perfect knowledge of that late discovery, the art of cutting to fit the human shape, he earnestly solicits their patronage, and assures them that all orders will be executed in the first style.

Uniforms of every description made in a superior manner.

Ladies' dresses made with taste and elegance.

He will be regularly supplied from New York with the newest London and American fashions.

Feb. 10. 11

WANTED,

A DWELLING HOUSE, suitable for a small family, situated within a convenient distance from the court-house, in Hillsborough. Possession would be required in March

Inquire of the Printer.

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING

Promised and exactly executed at the office of the Hillsborough Recorder.

BLANKS,
of various kinds,

for sale at this office.

To the Public.

For the Hillsborough Recorder.

TO DUNCAN CAMERON, ESQ.

Sir,

I take the liberty, without your permission, (permission being necessary only among nobility) to dedicate this imperfect sketch of my opinions on a convention to you.

I do it because, at the last session of the legislature, you were the first to agitate the question, by the introduction of resolutions the policy of which you maintained by a powerful and vigorous eloquence. Such a course was not expected by me; in expiation therefore of my sin of *hard thoughts* as to the course you would pursue, I have nothing better just now than the following desultory remarks to offer upon the altar of public opinion.

CASH STORE.

THE subscriber has lately opened a store in Hillsborough, in the house formerly occupied by him, where he offers for sale on very low terms for cash, a very considerable assortment of

among which are,

A large assortment of superfine, fine, and coarse broad cloths, superfine and fine cassimere, beds, dupe and Dutch blankets, coats, vestings, white and coloured plains, flannels and baises, cassimere and Canton crapes, shawls, colicos, bombazettes, cotton hose, black silk handkerchiefs, an assortment of guns, some of which are of very superior quality; trade chains, weeding-hoes, frying pans, anvils, vices, sickle and hand-hammers, bellows pipes and bands, cawley and blistered steel, carpenter's planes, imported wagon boxes, patent cutting knives and scybe blades, and a very large assortment of hardware and cutlery.

Kirkland, Webb & Co. have always on hand a considerable quantity of skirting, bridle, bags, upper and sole leather.

I wish to employ a sober, steady young man, who can come well recommended, and who has been brought up to the mercantile business, and is a good accountant.

Wm. Kirkland.

Hillsborough, Feb. 23. 3-3w

D. HEARTT

proposes publishing by subscription

THE

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES

OF THE

Convention of North Carolina

On the adoption of the Constitution of the United States;

TOGETHER WITH

The Constitution of the United States.

THE former edition of this work having become so scarce as to render it difficult to procure a copy, it has been suggested to the publisher that a new edition would be acceptable to the public; he has accordingly submitted the proposal for their patronage, and will commence the publication as soon as the number of subscribers shall be such as to justify the undertaking. The debates of the North Carolina convention on the adoption of the constitution of the United States, must certainly excite sufficient interest to prevent their becoming extinct; it is therefore presumed that the proposed edition will be extensively patronised throughout the state.

CONDITIONS.

The work will be comprised in a duodecimo volume of about three hundred pages, neatly printed on fine paper.

The price to subscribers will be one dollar and fifty cents, handsomely bound and lettered.

It will be put to press as soon as three hundred subscribers are obtained.

Subscriptions received at this office, and at most of the post-offices in the state.



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be founded on immemorial usage and custom;—but I never yet have been able to discover one fixed or immutable principle in the whole fabric; no inherent agency to operate a recurrence to fundamental principles; no well understood barrier between the rights of the citizen and the prerogative of the king; and, in fine, no provision for the vigorous exercise of the salutary principle of change and modification, whereby the most sickly and disordered systems are sometimes renovated.

If England really had a constitution,

so many opinions would not exist about its vague and undefined nature. The principles and features and characteristics of American constitutions are clearly stated, solemnly sanctioned, and accurately portrayed; but about the extent of the limits and powers of the English constitution, Bolingbroke has one opinion, De Lome a second, and Paley a third. By the term constitution, as understood by us Americans, is meant that supreme law of the land, made and ratified by those in whom the sovereign power resides; its object and purpose is to prescribe the manner according to which the state wills that the government should be instituted. From the constitution the government derives its power, and by its agency the energy of government is directed and controlled.

To give to any government the power of altering or changing the constitution, would be to subvert the foundations of its own authority. The case is widely different with the people. It is with them the constitution originates; the work of their own hands, and established for their preservation and safety, they have the right to mould, to refine or improve it in any way they please, and at what time they please. Can it then be doubted that they have the right to change it whenever, upon fair experiment, a majority shall be convinced that it is insufficient for the purposes of its adoption? To this resolution of the majority, the minority of the population are bound to submit.

If the act of original association be

infringed, or the intention of those who first united under it be violated, yet the minority are obliged to suffer the majority to do as they think proper. The majority have the right to revere, to sell

or to buy, that the boundaries

between civil and political legislation is distinctly marked and accurately defined.

It ought not to be contended, in this frail condition of human existence, that any positive institutions ever can so nearly approximate perfection as completely to answer, in all respects, the ends and purposes for which government is founded. The improvements which have been made and incorporated into the American systems, and that divine impress of freedom stamped upon them, is justly the pride and boast of an American, and quite sufficient to excite the envy and admiration of other nations; but the observation that the works of human improvement are slow and progressive applies as justly to our forms of government as to those of other nations.

The science of political jurisprudence is but the accumulated series of gradual improvements, drawn from the experience of ages. Few opportunities have been given to the human mind of indulging itself in easy and unrestrained investigation; still fewer opportunities have offered of verifying and correcting investigation by experiment. An age—a succession of ages—elapses before a system of jurisprudence rises from its first rude beginnings.—But if the discoveries in government are slow and difficult, how much more arduous must it be to obtain the benefits of those discoveries in practice?—While some have been founded in force, & others in fraud, how few, on turning the page of history, do we find to have been founded with views to the happiness and well-being of those for whom they were designed.

It is not surprising, therefore, that while governments in the main have been, in their commencement, so inauspicious to the principles of freedom and the means of happiness, they should have been likewise so unfavourable to advances in virtue and excellence.

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It is impossible that the discoveries which have been made, from time to time, in the science of political jurisprudence, and the benefits and advantages thence resulting to the world, ever should be realised except by the controlling power of constitutional authority.

When I speak of a constitution, I speak of a written compact, made by the people acting in a sovereign capacity;—an instrument which defines and assigns to each department of government its proper powers, functions and duties. To my mind England has no constitution, though it is a word which figures as a sort of hobby-horse in the pages of all her political writers.—England, it is true, possesses a government

which may be said, in some degree, to

be founded on immemorial usage and custom;—but I never yet have been able to discover one fixed or immutable principle in the whole fabric; no inherent agency to operate a recurrence to fundamental principles; no well understood barrier between the rights of the citizen and the prerogative of the king; and, in fine, no provision for the vigorous exercise of the salutary principle of change and modification, whereby the most sickly and disordered systems are sometimes renovated.

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To give to any government the power of altering or changing the constitution, would be to subvert the foundations of its own authority. The case is widely different with the people. It is with them the constitution originates; the work of their own hands, and established for their preservation and safety, they have the right to mould, to refine or improve it in any way they please, and at what time they please. Can it then be doubted that they have the right to change it whenever, upon fair experiment, a majority shall be convinced that it is insufficient for the purposes of its adoption? To this resolution of the majority, the minority of the population are bound to submit.

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Counties.	Free persons.	Counties.	Free persons.
Washington, 2177	Wilkes, 7860	Wake, 11208	Wayne, 3931

Orange, Rowan, Lincoln and Rutherford contain a population of sixty thousand souls. These four counties are situated to the west, if we make the county of Wake the dividing line, though Wake properly belongs to the west. Now, reader, how many eastern counties do you suppose it will take to furnish the number sixty thousand? It takes Haywood, Hyde, Gates, Jones, Tyrrell, Brunswick, Chowan, Greene, Nash, Washington, Columbus, Bladen, Bertie, Currituck, Camden, Lenoir, and Martin, to equal that number. This is seventeen counties to four. Fifty-one members in the legislature to twelve. Could a stronger fact or better proof be adduced to show the necessity of equalizing our representation? Of the sixty thousand souls that belong to the four counties of Orange, Rutherford, Rowan and Lincoln, about one-fourth are represented. Are these the blessings of civil liberty? or is this the value of a representative government? The county of Rowan has a population equal to seven of these counties.

In talking or speaking of this subject, it is not worth while to employ ambiguous language, or use equivocal reasons, or mantle the just causes for a convention under pretenses of minor importance. The constitution of our state may want amendment in many particulars. I know it does. Instead of electing our sheriffs by the magistrates of a county; the election for that office, as well as that of clerks, should be put on a more popular basis. There ought also some provisions to be made respecting the eligibility of judges of our supreme and superior courts of law, after passing a certain period of life. As to the removal of our seat of government, it is a matter of unimportance; though I believe that the state would become more respectable were it any where else than Raleigh.

But I wish to put the question on its strong ground, that of equal representation; and the people of the west will be wanting to themselves as republicans, if they much longer submit to be thus cajoled out of those rights which of all others I consider to be dearest to the freeman. I do not admire that kind of policy which claims on the score of expediency, what it should demand as a matter of right. A determined course of conduct, on the part of the western people, would carry the point; and carried it ought to be let the consequences be what they might.

Every individual comes into the world with all his rights unalienated, and is entitled to them, and to the exercise of them, as far as they are consistent with the rights of others. But, however, a matter of expediency to obey the laws which are found already established, and which cannot be conveniently revised by every individual of each succeeding generation; but this expediency ceases when the present order of things violates the safety or infringes the liberty of the people. Here begins legitimate resistance; and who is to judge of the fitness of resistance? Paixy answers, every man for himself at his own peril.

These remarks apply to any form of government, particularly to those where the doctrines of passive obedience and non-resistance are never agitated, until the actual condition of the country elicit them. The American governments, however, are framed and organised on certain principles embodied in a constitution; and it is in the preservation and integrity of these principles that the value of our institutions consists. It is at the point of contact of the different powers, and on their mutual boundaries with the principles which they involve with us, that resistance is ever likely to become necessary; and the importance of the dispute, too, is not so much to be estimated by the immediate object in view, as by the consequences of a precedent. Soldiers defend to the last drop of their blood, breach, which is only a heap of stones, for the sake of the place behind, which must fall if the enemy succeed in making a lodgement.

But my old friend Hudibras says it better:

As when the sea breaks o'er its bounds,
And overflows the level grounds,
Those banks and dams that, like a screen,
Did keep it out, now keep it in.
So when tyrannic usurpation
Invades the freedom of a nation,
The laws o' the land, that were intended
To keep it out, are made defend it.

From the statistical table it would appear, that North Carolina has not that equipoise of power to which her population should entitle her. About one half of the population are represented in her legislature; the remaining half, therefore, is, in an estimate of general enumeration, the same as if it did not exist.

In this difference consists the oppression. In a word, what is it but controlling a majority by a minority?

A multitude of people can do business jointly only in three ways: first, by the decision of a majority; secondly, by the decision of a minority; or, thirdly, by the decision of the whole. Ours being a representative republic, we have no occasion to speak of the last mode; the question I propose then is which is

most reasonable and equitable, that the majority should bind the minority, or that the former be bound by the latter?

It seems to be the most reasonable, that the majority should govern, because it is not so probable that a greater number as that a smaller concurring in judgment should be mistaken. It is most equitable, because a greater number are presumed to have an interest in the society proportioned to that number.

In the course of legislation some question of internal policy will arise, when the interests of a greater and a less portion of our population will conflict, and if our representation continues as at this day, thousands of the population of our state are to be bound by the operation of a law or laws to what they had no consent in making. A liberal but misguided policy has given to the eastern section of the state a controlling power. The people of that part of our state have had the art and address to get their territory split and subdivided into small counties, until they out number the western people. So long as this state of things lasts, opinion never will have a fair direction; measures of wise and liberal policy will be forever subjected to the narrow and shortsighted view of minds actuated by local jealousies and territorial partialities. When public acts are adopted under these circumstances, is it reasonable to expect that the true interests of North Carolina will be considered?

The value of a representative government consists as much as anything in affording to the great mass of the community a channel of easy and undisguised communication of opinion; it is a system by which the direction and the amount of the public sentiment may at all times be ascertained with a certainty quite sufficient for all practical purposes. And unless there be some conduct in the structure of every society, for the transmission of political opinion through the great mass of the community, it will be impossible ever to acquire a just estimate of the habits and tempers of the people. Those circumstances which most powerfully excite and impress the opinions of the great body of the community, never will be known or felt until just before they have produced a violent convulsion; and to the operation of this principle may be traced those great events in the history of nations, which have most importantly influenced their political condition.

CIVIS.

March 18th, 1820.

CONGRESS.

Friday, March 3.

The journal of the proceedings of the house on yesterday being read,

Mr. Randolph rose and intimated an intention now to move the house to consider their vote of yesterday, by which they concurred with the senate in striking the restriction from the Missouri bill.

The speaker declared the motion out of order until the ordinary business of the morning, as prescribed by the rules of the house, should be disposed of. From which opinion of the chair, Mr. Randolph appealed.

The question being taken on the correctness of the decision, it was affirmed by the house.

The house then proceeded in receiving and referring petitions; when, petitions being called for from the members of Virginia,

Mr. Randolph moved that the house retain in their possession the Missouri bill, until the period should arrive, when according to the rules of the house, a motion to reconsider the vote of yesterday on concurring in the first amendment proposed by the senate to the bill aforesaid, should be in order.

The speaker declared this motion out of order, for the reason assigned on the first application of Mr. Randolph on this day.

Mr. Sergeant, from the judiciary committee reported a bill to continue in force the act of March 3, 1819, "to protect the commerce of the United States, and to punish the crime of piracy."

Mr. Randolph, being in the majority on that question, moved the house now to reconsider their vote of yesterday, in which they concurred in the first amendment proposed by the senate to the Missouri bill, which was to strike out the slavery restriction.

Mr. Archer, of Virginia, seconded the motion.

The speaker having ascertained the fact, stated to the house, that the proceedings of the house on that bill yesterday, had been communicated to the senate, by the clerk, and that the bill not being in possession of the house, the motion to reconsider could not be entertained.

Whereupon, Mr. Randolph submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That, in carrying the bill, entitled "an act to authorize the people of the territory of Missouri to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states," after a member from Virginia had given notice of his intention to move a reconsideration of the question

decided last evening, in which the said member, viz. Mr. Randolph, voted in the majority on one of the amendments of the senate thereto, the clerk is guilty of a breach of the privileges of a member of this house under the rules thereof.

And the question being put whether the house would now consider the said resolution; it was decided in the negative—aye 61, no 71.

Mr. Randolph then submitted the following proposition; which lies on the table.

"That so much of the 37th rule as allows a reconsideration of any question by motion of any member of the majority on such question on the day succeeding that on which such question be taken, be expunged."

A message was received from the senate, announcing that they had receded from their amendments to the Maine bill; but asking a further conference on the subject of that bill [for the purpose of making a necessary verbal amendment—to insert March "1820," instead of March "next," as the original bill was drafted.]

Mr. Randolph moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed, and proceeded at considerable length to offer his reasons for wishing to prevent its passage; when

Mr. R. was called to order, by Mr. Livermore, for deviating from the question under debate.

The speaker decided that Mr. Randolph was not out of order.

Mr. Livermore appealed from the decision of the chair; but before the question was put,

Mr. Randolph withdrew his motion for the indefinite postponement of the bill.

The conference was then agreed to; and soon after Mr. Holmes reported the amendment as above stated, which was agreed to by the house, and the bill was thus finally acted on.

Monday, March 6.

Mr. Smith from the committee of ways and means, reported, by way of amendment to a bill which had been referred to them, a bill in addition to the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the treasury, war and navy departments; which was referred to a committee of the whole house.

Mr. Slocumb submitted a resolution authorising the president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives to close this session by adjournment of their respective houses on the day of next. And, at the instance of the mover, the said resolution was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Cocke submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Var. 1. An act to instruct the committee of ways and means to inquire into the expediency of reducing the naval establishment of the U. States.

Mr. Cocke made a few remarks, in the course of which he stated his object to be to effect a reduction in the number of officers of the navy, so as to proportion them more equally to the number of vessels in commission. It was to this point only, that he wished to call the attention of the naval committee.

The house having agreed to consider the motion by a vote of 67 to 63, it was then, on motion of Mr. Lowndes, with the consent of the mover, ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. Cocke, it was then

Resolved, That the secretary of war be directed to report to this house, copies of all contracts which have been made for the building or repairing fortifications, arsenals or magazines, since the year 1815; and, also, that he report the amount of monies actually paid, to whom, and when, and whether public notice was actually given of said contracts, and what surety was given, in what amount, and whether the surety is still solvent; and whether the contracts have been faithfully performed.

The engrossed bill in addition to the act regulating the post office establishment, was read a third time, passed, and returned to the senate.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill making appropriations for the support of the navy of the United States for the current year.

Towards the close of the debate, Mr. Clay moved that "it be recommended to the house to recommit to the committee of ways and means the bill entitled, &c. (the appropriation bill) with instruction to prepare the same in reference to an occasional instead of a permanent employment of the squadron in the Mediterranean."

After debate, this motion was negatived, 72 to 51; and the committee rose and reported the bill, with the following appropriations therein, viz:

For pay and subsistence of the officers, and pay of the seamen, \$989,320.

For provisions, \$415,187.

For medicines, hospital stores, and all expenses on account of the sick, including the marine corps, \$36,000.

For repairs of vessels, \$484,000.

For contingent expenses, \$140,000.

For improvement of navy yards, docks and wharves, pay of superintendents, store-keepers, clerks, and labourers, 100,000 dollars.

For pay and subsistence of the marine corps, 177,228 dollars.

For cloathing the same, 27,205 dollars.

For military stores, 1,000 dollars. For the contingent expenses of the same, 20,000.

And before considering the same, the house adjourned.

Tuesday, March 7.

Mr. Silsbee, from the committee on naval affairs, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of suspending for a limited time, so much of the standing appropriation of 1,000,000 dollars for the increase of the navy as may be consistent with the public service, &c. made a report, the purport of which is, that, after due inquiry, they believe that true economy and the best interests of the nation are opposed to a suspension for a limited time, of any portion of the sum annually appropriated for the gradual increase of the navy; and that they have not been able to ascertain where any essential reduction can be made in the expenses of the navy, without reducing the establishment.

The report was ordered to lie on the table.

The house then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole on the bill making the annual appropriations for the support of the navy.

Mr. Cobb moved to recommit the bill to the committee of ways and means, with instructions so to amend it as to reduce the appropriations for every branch of the service, one-fourth.

This motion produced a debate, in the course of which it was supported by the mover, and Mr. Warfield and Mr. Culpepper, and opposed by Messrs. Smith, of Md. Smith, of N. C. Trimble, Johnson, Foot, Holmes, Wood and Lowndes.

Mr. Johnson, desirous to postpone this and the other appropriation bills until the amount of the deficit in the treasury was ascertained, and the deficit supplied, moved to strike out the proposed instruction to the committee, so as to leave the question one of recommendation only. This motion was negatived.

Wednesday, March 8.

On motion of Mr. Cocke, the bill respecting the military establishment of the U. States, (for reducing certain branches of it) was committed to the same committee to whom had been previously referred the bill making appropriations for the military service for the year 1820.

The amendments of the senate to the bill "to provide for taking the fourth census or the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States," were read and concurred in by the house.

The engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of the navy of the same, was read a third time, passed and concurred in by the senate.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment of the U. States.

[To the same committee was to day referred the bill respecting the military establishment.]

The last mentioned bill was taken up, and having been read—

Mr. Cannon moved to strike out all the first section of the bill, excepting the enacting clause, and in lieu thereof to insert the following:

"That the military peace establishment of the United States shall consist of such proportions of artillery engineers, infantry and riflemen, as the president of the United States shall judge proper to retain in service, not exceeding in the whole, including officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, five thousand."

Mr. Cannon supported this motion by a speech of some length on the necessity of retrenchment, occasioned by the state of the finances; the inutility of an army in peace—the militia being willing and competent to perform any occasional service in which an army may be employed.

Mr. Clay avowed himself to be in favour of reducing the army, in preference to resorting to taxes, loans, or to an invasion of the sinking fund, to meet the expenses of the government—if, on the report of the committee of foreign relations, the attitude of the country should not be changed to that of war, or to that which should menace war. Meanwhile, he was disposed not to act on the bill now before the committee, but to defer it for the present for the purpose of acting on the military appropriation bill. If, after the report of the committee of foreign relations should be made, it should be thought expedient to reduce the army, the appropriations would shape themselves to what should be the actual force and condition of the military establishment. He therefore moved to lay this bill on the table, with a view to take up the appropriation bill.

The question was taken on this motion without debate, and decided in the affirmative.

The bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment, for the current year, was taken up.

On coming to the appropriation for the support of the military academy for the present year—

Mr. Cannon spoke at some length against this appropriation, on the ground

of hostility to the institution itself; convincing that the money levied by taxes on the people, and on the poor as well as the rich, could be better employed than on the gratuitous instruction of a privileged class of youth.

Mr. Smith, of Maryland, remarked that the arguments of the gentleman would well apply to a proposition to abolish this institution but did not apply with any force to the question in hand, which was not the establishment of the academy, but the appropriation of money to defray expenses already authorized by law.

Mr. Cannon was so little disposed to continue this establishment, that he was willing to arrest, or at least to reduce, the appropriation. But, in order to get a proposition to reduce the expense of that establishment, or to abolish it, Mr. C. moved to lay this on the table.

After some observations from Mr. Strother in opposition to this motion, the question was taken thereon, and decided in the negative.

Mr. Cannon had proposed a sum less than that moved by the chairman of the committee of ways and means for the support of the military academy. So that two questions were presented: the one on a certain sum necessary to the support of the academy as it now stands, and the other on a less sum. The question being taken, according to usage, on the largest amount, it was decided in the affirmative, by a large majority.

The committee proceeded to the consideration of the other items of appropriation.

The item of 21,000 dollars, for bounties and premiums on enlistments of recruits to fill up the army, coming up—

Mr. Williams, of North Carolina, opposed this item, on the ground that there was no necessity for increasing the number of the army beyond their present amount.

he could not vote to reduce a man of the army in the present posture of our affairs. Even if the army were to be reduced, he did not know that he should vote against the item of appropriation, as it might be necessary to have such an appropriation, let the force of the army be greater or less. In relation to all expenditures already authorized by law, he thought the house should go on and make the appropriations in relation to the items of appropriation not previously authorized by law, such as that for fortifications, &c. the house was at full liberty to use a discretion, &c.

Mr. Cannon spoke at some length in favour of the proposed amendment and of course in favour of arresting the recruiting of the army. He denied the necessity of maintaining the army in its present force, and did not see any indications, from any quarter, of a change in our present attitude, to require its maintenance.

Mr. Williams, of N. C. also spoke to the same effect as Mr. C. at some length, and concluded by a motion that the committee rise, with the express view of laying this bill on the table, in order to take up the proposition to reduce the army.

The question on this motion was decided in the negative by no large majority.

The question on Mr. Foot's motion was then decided in the negative by a decided majority.

And the item of appropriation for bounties, &c. for the recruiting service was agreed to.

The other appropriations in the bill were then agreed to, until the house came to the appropriation for fortifications; for which object the committee of ways and means propose the sum of 800,000 dollars.

Mr. Smith, of Md. explained the views of the war department, and of the committee of ways and means, on this subject. The officers having charge of that branch of the service had recommended the appropriation of a considerably larger amount, as being necessary under existing contracts; but the committee of ways and means was of opinion that a part of the proposed amount might be dispensed with, without great prejudice to the service, and had so reported.

This debate gave rise to some brief debate which had not terminated when a motion was made for the committee to rise, (about four o'clock,) and agreed to, and the house adjourned.

Wednesday, March 22.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor would avail himself of the present opportunity of letting it be distinctly understood, that he neither wishes nor intends that his paper shall be made a vehicle to minister to the bad passions of the world. Nothing could be more offensive to his readers, he is well assured, and he knows nothing would be more repugnant to his own feelings, than to see the columns of the Recorder become channels for personal invective. The editor is well convinced that it promotes the cause of sound morality, as well as favours the cultivation of the generous affections, while addressing the better, not to irritate or arouse the worst parts of our nature. He wishes to give offence to no one, but feels himself constrained to make these remarks under existing circumstances.

Amator Patriae's remarks came to hand rather out of season.

Charlotte Tasty was received too late for insertion this week.

An interview is requested with Alcixis.

Suicide.—William Thomson, of this county, on Saturday morning last, put a period to his existence by discharging the contents of a loaded pistol into his throat. He survived but a few minutes after the horrid deed. It is supposed that he had formed the resolution of committing this rash act some months previous, from the circumstance of his having refused to retain a lawyer at the last term of the court in this county, to plead to several writs which were returned against him.

Washington, March 10.

The budget of the committee of foreign relations in the house of representatives, is at length opened.

We are presented with a proposition to take immediate possession of the Floridas, and to establish a temporary government therein. This proposition goes a little beyond the recommendation of the president in his message to congress, and falls considerably short of the views

of at least some of the statesmen in congress. The president recommended the authorizing a contingent occupation of that territory; some of our leading politicians are for occupying Texas on the west, as well as Florida, on the south. We rather approve the intermediate course proposed by the committee of foreign relations; not desiring, on the one hand, to pass the territorial limits designated by the treaty; and believing, on the other, that the dilatoriness of the Spanish government, ascertained since the date of the president's message, justifies a more peremptory course than is recommended in that document.

The report and bill were referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and may therefore be called up at any time; and, it is presumed, will be acted on at an early day.

There was yesterday transmitted to congress by the president a report of the secretary of state, transmitting a number of documents exhibiting the latest accounts from our minister at Madrid. They shed little additional light, however, on the state of our relations with Spain.

Our Affairs with Spain.

The following extract of a private letter, from a highly respectable source, which we have had an opportunity of perusing, gives us more satisfactory information on the subject of our relations with Spain than is disclosed by the official documents on the subject.

Nat. Intel.

Extract of a letter dated Cadiz, Dec 17, 1819.

We have nothing new here. Mr. Forsyth has been pressing this government very hard about gen. Vives, and it has at last (in order to quiet Mr. F.) been determined that he shall go; but I know positively, from a person who has it from Vives himself, that he goes to Paris, from thence to London, and that he has no idea of leaving Europe, until it is known what our government has done, and means to do. Thus you see, if our people wait for explanations from this court, they may wait, and the business will be protracted by pretended new negotiations for twenty years longer. If our government will act with energy, all will go right. It is ridiculous to talk of England assisting this country; they are on as bad, or, if possible on worse terms with Spain than ourselves. Besides, England cannot, and feels no disposition to quarrel with us. She wishes, it is true to get us in a war with Spain, but that is merely to get a cover or plea for acknowledging the independence of South America, or forcing Spain to admit her mediation, securing to herself the commerce exclusively for twenty

years. Our country has but one conduct to pursue—to do justice to themselves, and not meddle, directly or indirectly, either with England or France.

We have nothing to do with European politics, and ought never to allow them to meddle in our affairs. All things here continue to remain in the same state of confusion; and, though Lozano Torres is not in the ministry, he has as much or more influence than ever."

The bill authorizing the people of the Missouri territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of the same into the Union on an equal footing with the original states, (without the proposed restriction,) having received the signature of the president of the United States, has become a law.

The people of the Missouri territory are thus relieved from a state of suspense in which the people of the United States generally have largely participated. It would be unjust not to say, that, through the whole business, at the present session as well as the last, their delegate, Mr. Scott, has displayed a zeal and discretion which entitle him to the thanks and confidence of his constituents.

Nat. Intel.

STATUE OF WASHINGTON.

We have been favoured with the perusal of a letter, written by Jonathan Russell, Esq. of Massachusetts, (late United States' minister to Sweden) and addressed to the honorable Nathaniel Macon, on the subject of the statue of Washington. This great work, so honorable a proof of the patriotism and public spirit of North Carolina, and which has excited such general attention, it will be recollect, is under the hands of that celebrated sculptor the marquis Canova, and is now nearly finished. We are highly gratified at the favourable report which Mr. Russell gives of the taste and correctness displayed by the celebrated artist. We very much regret that we have not the liberty of publishing this truly interesting and gratifying letter. To the classic scholar and man of taste, it would prove a rich repast—to all it would be highly interesting as conveying a clear and distinct account of one of the greatest monuments of art, destined to commemorate one of the greatest men the world has witnessed.

The marble employed in the execution of the work (we are told,) like him it is destined to commemorate, is without a single spot." *Raleigh Star.*

Captain Williams, of the brig Union, arrived at Wiscasset, in 133 days from St. Petersburg, has brought despatches from George W. Campbell, our minister at Russia, for government, and deposited them in the post office at Wiscasset.

Columbia, (S. C.) March 7.

PUBLIC WORKS.

We announce with much pleasure, that since the first meeting of the board of public works, at Cand's Ford, on the 24th January, most of the plans of the works for this year, theretofore determined on, have been put into operation. Contracts have been made, and the work commenced at the following point:

Broad river.—Col. Neashit has undertaken the canal and locks at Lockhart's shoals. The work is commenced and his force rapidly increasing.

Mr. McKenzie has contracted for the lockage at the Bull's nose, and for the Columbia canal and basin. His force is a respectable one, and considerable impression has already been made on this work.

Saluda.—Mr. Dyer, with a good force continues the work on the Saluda canal, which is nearly completed.

Mr. Kibbe has undertaken the works at Drchr's falls, fifteen miles above Columbia, and has placed a strong force on the work.

Congaree and Santee.—Col. Middle-ton superintends the clearing of the Congaree and Santee, and we understand has most of his force engaged.

Wateree.—Col. Nixon has undertaken this river below Grove's shoals, eight miles above Camden. He has a considerable force already employed.

Pedee.—General Williams continues the operations on this river, with a force, which, it is expected, will finish in this year.

Edisto.—Contracts are in full operation, with competent forces, on Lower Edisto, under col. Johnston, on South Edisto, under Mr. Head, and on North Edisto, under Mr. Williamson.

Catamata.—General Davie and the assistant engineer are examining this river, and a strong force of stone masons, blasters, &c. are expected from the north, to commence the work in April.

Charleston Road.—The general course of this road has been determined. It has been examined from Columbia ferry, to a point below Huckabuck Swamp; and a contract is made for that part of the road, with Mr. Anderson, who is expected to begin the work in a few days, and finish it by the middle of July, when his force will be removed to the road from Columbia to Spring Hill, during the autumnal months.

The president of the board and the ~~members~~ are now below Huckabuck Swamp, and will soon reach Charleston; when it is hoped that a force will be engaged to commence the work below.

Baltimore, March 2.

This morning John F. Ferguson, William Murphy, Thomas O'Brian, Charles Weaver, Isaac McAllister, John Jackson, and Isaac Denny, convicted of piracy committed on board of the Irre sistible privateer, which they ran away with from Margarita, were brought before the honor judge Bland, who, after a short but impressive address, pronounced upon them the sentence of Death. They were conducted back to jail, there to await the execution of their sentence. We trust the detection of crime in this instance, and the impending punishment which will soon consign to the grave the guilty agents, will have the effect of deterring others from similar outrages; and, in the result, rescue our country from the stigma which such transactions have had a tendency to fix upon it.

Patriot.

March 4.

Last night nineteen criminals made their escape from Baltimore county jail, and at the time our paper went to press but one of them had been taken. It was reported that the pirates were among them, but it is not so. We do not wish to cast censure, but really there appears a great want of proper vigilance somewhere.

Patriot.

The Bubble.—Under this appropriate head, the Cincinnati Gazette states, that "the Silver Mine Company's stock has risen to 100 dollars for 10 dollars paid!"

Execution.—The Negro man Albro, convicted of the murder of Mr. Thomas Delieseline, on Dewees' Island, was executed in Christ Church Parish, on Saturday the 4th inst. He died penitent, acknowledging his guilt and the justice of his sentence.

A negro house, on the plantation of Mr. John Partridge, a few miles below this place, was struck by lightning on Tuesday night, the 7th inst. and set on fire; and four negroes, who were sleeping in the house, and who are supposed to have been stunned by the lightning, were entirely consumed before any assistance could be given them.

S. C. State Gaz.

Niagara, (Upper Canada) Feb. 17.

We are informed that, a few days since, one of the Six Nation Indians, at

the Grand River, shot a black woman; after which he invited three of his friends to the house, made them all drunk, and set fire to the house and consumed them. The Indians were holding a council, and the result is not yet known. It is stated, as most probable, the monster who committed this savage act will be shot.

COLONEL KING.

In an exculpatory article in relation to this officer, the Metropolitan, a new paper printed at Georgetown, District of Columbia, thus remarks—“ We have not seen the papers containing the evidence in colonel King's case; yet it is enough that, like commodore Barron, he has been suspended for five years, without pay or emolument. That the service has lost a valuable officer, every man who knew him will assert. The soldier who was shot, it appears, had deserted, and was found asleep by a sergeant and his party; they awoke him and told him to prepare for death; they bore the order in their hands; he implored for mercy, and prayed that he might be taken to camp; the sergeant showed his orders; the unhappy man still pleaded, still implored for mercy—the deadly weapon was leveled—it missed fire. Here, indeed, was an interval where mercy might have extended herself, at least until he could have been taken to camp; but the sergeant was inexorable—the unhappy wretch pleaded in vain—the musket was again presented—the second attempt ended his existence and his miseries together. The sergeant went back to camp, and colonel King wrote an order for him to receive thirty dollars for the apprehension of, and killing —, a deserter. The mention of the facts makes us turn with horror from the subject; there was something so cold, so bloody in the conduct of the sergeant, that we cannot help feeling indignant; let us recollect, however, that such an order may have been indissoluble to the welfare of the army,” &c. !!!

The Fine Arts.—Captain Coffin, of the ship Telegraph, arrived here from Liverpool has brought out with him the specimens of bank notes, presented by Perkins and Fairman to the bank of England. They are beautifully executed, and so superior to any other plan offered by the London artists and engravers, that there is little doubt but that they will be adopted by the Commissioners. Meanwhile, those gentlemen will be well paid for their genius and invention. It will be remembered, that Messrs.

~~Perkins and Fairman~~ went to London, under an engagement with Mr. Bagot, the British Minister, who was much impressed with the superior style of their bank note engraving. It will be flattering to the genius of our country, in despite of British prejudice and British talent, if the works of those gentlemen should be adopted. As we have rivalled Europe in the productions of the pencil, by the works of West, Trumbull, Copley, Alston, Leslie, and Newton; we now bid fair to exceed them in the art engraving, not only for superior execution, but superior design. It is to be hoped that more attention will be paid among us to the encouragement of the fine arts, & that the saloon of the academy, and the gallery of the rotunda, will not long remain in their present deserted state. We have in this city a few matchless pictures: the Ariadne, and Marius, of Vandelyn, are exquisite productions. The latter, at the exhibition of the Louvre, received the gold medal. Napoleon was much struck with Marius sitting on the ruins of Carthage, and expressed in warm commendation his admiration of the talent of the painter. Little did he dream of a similar fate! The walls of the academy of fine arts are embellished with the works of West, Trumbull, Waldo, Jarvis, and a number of exquisite paintings presented by friends of the academy; and there is reason to believe that the next spring exhibition will be honourable to the talents of our artists, and offer a rich treat to the lovers of taste and genius. *American.*

FOREIGN ARTICLES.

A most furious insurrection is stated to have broken out at Smyrna. Much blood has been shed on the occasion. The palace of the Pacha was stormed, and he himself escaped with great difficulty.

The President's message had been published in most of the London papers, and was regarded as an able state paper. In remarking upon it the editor of the Courier says: “ It is satisfactory to learn from this document, that the United States' government is actively and sincerely cooperating in putting down the slave trade.”

The Price Regent has appointed Anthony Barclay, Esq. to be H. B.

Majesty's Commissioner for carrying into effect the 6th and 7th articles of the treaty of Ghent, vice John Ogilvy, Esq. deceased.

The Theatre at Birmingham, was burnt to the ground on the night of the 6th January.

Admiral Lambert was going out as commander in chief at St. Helena, in the room of Rear Admiral Plam-

pin.

On the 12th January, prince Talleyrand was confined by indisposition.

The ex-director Barras was at the point of death.

Marshal Soult was introduced to

Louis XVIII., who restored to him

his baton as a marshal of France.

The king of France has granted a

pardon to general Lavalotte.

Gen. Savary has been tried before the Council of War at Paris, and acquitted of the charges which had been preferred against him.

The Archduchess of Parma, (the late empress Maria-Louisa) was said to be dangerously ill.

The King of England dead.—By the ship Meteor, arrived at Charleton on the 11th inst. in 28 days from Liverpool, accounts are received of the death of the King of England and the Duke of Kent. The Prince Regent was proclaimed King with the usual solemnities. Some disturbances in the County of Galway, Ireland, had taken place on receipt

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At his residence in All Saints Parish, on the 9th inst. in the 36th year of his age, Maj. Joseph Alston, a native of this state. He removed to South Carolina some years since, and succeeded to the management of a rice plantation, in the most humble sphere. With practice his knowledge of planting increased, and in a few years he had not only become skilful as a planter, but was deservedly ranked among the most successful farmers in that district.

At camp Missouri, near Council Bluffs, on the 25th of December last, captain Thomas M. Reed, of the 6th infantry of the United States' army.

At New Orleans, on the 4th ult. Don Felipe Fatio, consul of Spain, formerly secretary of the Spanish legation at Washington.

NOTICE.

JAMES & Anderson Mobane gave unto the subscriber sometime in the month of

